

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
collecting data in a lower media access control (MAC) layer implemented in a wireless network interface, the data regarding a current association in a wireless network; and
passing the data to an upper media access control (MAC) layer implemented in a host system coupled to the wireless network interface;
storing the data as association history data in the host system for use in future association decisions[.];
passing the association history data back to the lower media access control layer implemented in the wireless network interface; and
performing an association decision based at least in part on the association history data.
- 2-3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the data includes data throughput of the current association.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the data includes a duration of the current association.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the data includes a reason for disassociation of the current association.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the data includes a number of previous associations.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the method is performed at least in part by software embedded on a memory of ~~on~~ a host system.

9. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
- collecting data in a lower media access control (MAC) layer implemented in a wireless network interface, the data regarding a current association in a wireless network;
 - passing the data to an upper media access control (MAC) layer implemented in a host system coupled to the wireless network interface;
 - storing the data as association history data in the host system for use in future association decisions;
 - accessing the association history data for at least one access point in a wireless network;
- and
- selecting an access point based at least in part on the association history data[[]]; and
 - passing information regarding the access point selected to the wireless network interface.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein accessing the association history data comprises accessing a duration of a last association.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein accessing the association history data comprises accessing a reason for disassociation.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein accessing the association history data comprises accessing an average throughput for past associations.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein accessing the association history data comprises accessing a number of previous associations.
16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the method is performed at least in part by software embedded on a memory in a wireless network interface.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the method is performed at least in part by software embedded on a memory in ~~on~~ a host system.

18. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
collecting historical association data at a lower media access control layer in a wireless network interface; ~~and~~
passing the historical association data to an upper media access control layer running in a software driver on a host system, to allow the data to be saved using resources of the host system[.];
accessing the historical association data; and
passing the historical association data to the lower media access control layer in the wireless network interface to facilitate an association decision.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein accessing association history data comprises accessing a duration of a last association.

20. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein accessing association history data comprises accessing a reason for disassociation.

21. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein accessing association history data comprises accessing an average throughput for past associations.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus including a medium adapted to hold machine-accessible instructions that when accessed result in a machine performing:
collecting data in a lower media access control (MAC) layer implemented in a wireless network interface, the data regarding a current association in a wireless network;
passing the data to an upper media access control (MAC) layer implemented in a host system coupled to the wireless network interface;
storing the data as association history data in the host system for use in future association decisions;

accessing the association history data for at least one access point in a wireless network;
and
selecting an access point based at least in part on the association history data[.]; and
passing information regarding the access point selected to the wireless network interface.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein accessing association history data comprises accessing a duration of a last association.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein accessing association history data comprises accessing an average throughput for past associations.

25-30. (Canceled)